United Nations A/RES/58/249

General Assembly

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20 February 2004

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/58/570)*]

58/249. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Having considered the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2002,[1] the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations relating to the biennium 2000–2001,[2] the second report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations[3] and on the accounts of the United Nations funds and programmes[4] for the biennium ended 31 December 2001, and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5]

Recognizing the difficult conditions under which the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees does its work,

1. *Accepts* the financial report and audited financial statements and the report and audit opinion of the Board of Auditors regarding the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002;[1]

2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;[6]

3. *Also endorses* the observations and recommendation contained in paragraphs 2 to 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[5]

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/58/5/Add.5).

[2] A/58/114, appendix.

[3] A/58/97.

[4] A/58/97/Add.1.

[5] A/58/384.

[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/58/5/Add.5), chap. II.

4. *Notes with concern* the shortcomings identified by the Board of Auditors in the management of financial and human resources by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, urges the High Commissioner to continue to implement the Board's recommendations, and requests him to report regularly to the relevant governing bodies on progress made in that regard;

5. *Notes* the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

6. *Notes with concern* the further depletion of the reserves of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and requests the High Commissioner to examine the causes of continued operating deficits with a view to ensuring that the Office usually operates within its income for each financial year;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the full extent of unfunded staff termination and post-service liabilities in the United Nations and its funds and programmes and to propose measures that would ensure progress towards fully funding such liabilities;

8. *Takes note* of the second report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations[3] and on the accounts of the United Nations funds and programmes[4] for the biennium ended 31 December 2001 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations;[2]

9. *Notes with appreciation* the recommendation to consolidate the reports of the Secretary-General on the accounts of the United Nations and its funds and programmes in a single report;[7]

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in the consolidated report the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and to clarify the recommendations that were partially implemented and those that were not implemented;

11. *Requests* the audited organizations to take all steps necessary to implement fully and expeditiously the outstanding audit recommendations.

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[7] A/58/114, appendix, para. 7.

United Nations A/RES/58/250

General Assembly

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5 February 2004

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 125

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/58/575)*]

58/250. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002, 57/283 A of 20 December 2002 and 57/283 B of 15 April 2003,

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Also reaffirming the provisions relevant to conference services of its resolutions on multilingualism,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences[1] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[2]

Having also considered the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005,[3] in particular paragraph I.84 thereof, and the second report of the Advisory Committee,[4]

I

Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Committee on Conferences;

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/58/32).

[2] A/58/194, and Corr.1 and 2, A/58/213, A/57/783 and A/57/809.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/58/7 and Corr.1).

[4] A/58/7/Add.1 and Corr.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

2. *Approves* the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2004–2005, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[5] taking into account the observations of the Committee, and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2004–2005 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A, 54/248, 55/222, 56/242 and 57/283 B concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Id al-Fitr and Id al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to continue to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

II

A. Utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities

1. *Notes* the improvements in the utilization of the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa in response to section II.A, paragraph 21, of its resolution 57/283 B, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to explore all possible options to increase further the utilization of the conference centre;

2. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to consult with those bodies that have consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark figure of their allocated resources of the past three sessions, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and urges the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources to work more closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat and to consider changes to their programme of work, as appropriate, including adjustments based on previous patterns for recurring agenda items, with a view to making improvements in their underutilization factors;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts that are being made to improve utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

4. *Recalls* its several resolutions, including resolution 57/283 B, section II.A, paragraph 9, and reaffirms that all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations bodies shall take place in Nairobi, except as otherwise authorized by the General Assembly or the Committee on Conferences acting on its behalf;

5. *Reiterates its encouragement* to the Secretary-General to continue to intensify the efforts being made by the United Nations Office at Nairobi to attract more meetings to its facilities;

6. *Strongly discourages* any invitation to host meetings which would violate the headquarters rule, in particular for the United Nations Office at Nairobi and other United Nations centres with a low utilization level;

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[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/58/32), annex II.

[6] A/57/809.

7. *Emphasizes* that all duty stations shall be given adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its concern* over the delay in the process of filling the remaining vacancies in the interpretation and translation services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and calls for the expeditious filling of the vacancies, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

9. *Regrets* the difficulties, including the delay, in fully staffing the Arabic Unit in the Interpretation Section at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and requests the Secretary-General to take adequate measures to ensure the filling of those posts without further delay, and to report thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

10. *Notes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met;

11. *Notes with concern* that the rate of provision of interpretation services to the regional and other major groupings has declined;

12. *Notes with appreciation* that 100 per cent of requests by regional and other major groupings for conference facilities were met, according to the current methodology for recording statistics;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing services of the highest quality to Member States in all duty stations and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures in order to address current disparities in the quality of conference services between duty stations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in future reports the utilization rates of interpretation services and conference facilities at all duty stations;

15. *Notes* that the Secretary-General has submitted his report[7] pursuant to section II.A, paragraph 14, of its resolution 57/283 B, in which it reaffirmed its decision to include all necessary resources in the budget for the biennium 2004–2005 to provide interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groups, on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice;

B. Reform of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Welcomes* the initial steps taken by the Secretary-General in the implementation of the reform measures put forward in his report[8] in accordance with

[7] A/58/397.

[8] A/57/289.

section II.B of its resolution 57/283 B, and encourages the continued implementation of the measures described in paragraph 52 of his report on the reform of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat,[9] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reiterates its request* contained in section II.B, paragraph 12, of its resolution 57/283 B;

4. *Stresses* that the reform of the Department should be aimed at improving the quality of documents and their timely production and delivery and the quality of conference services provided to Member States, with a view to meeting their needs as efficiently and effectively as possible and in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

5. *Also stresses* that the reform of the Department should be aimed equally at increasing the productivity of the Department in delivering all services in accordance with relevant resolutions;

6. *Notes* that the reform will include a comprehensive study of the integrated global management, in accordance with section II.B, paragraph 8, of resolution 57/283 B, in consultation with the Office of Internal Oversight Services and with the full participation of all duty stations in a collaborative and consultative process, with a view to reaching conclusions that are both practical and comprehensive, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of the matter through the Committee on Conferences;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop further an effective measure to strengthen the responsibility and accountability system within the Secretariat, in order to ensure the timely submission of documents for processing, and to submit a comprehensive report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Committee on Conferences;

8. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to establish a Secretariat task force, with broad participation, to conduct a comprehensive study of workload standards and performance measurement and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Committee on Conferences;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a thorough cost-benefit study of summary records and to review the list of bodies entitled to them, in full consultation with all relevant intergovernmental bodies, with a view to assessing the need for such records, and to explore the possibility of delivering them in a more efficient and effective manner, and to report thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the ongoing and planned work on workload standards and performance measurement specifically develops quantitative methods and indicators to assess productivity, efficiency and cost-effectiveness and to do so also for the quality of services, and to report thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

11. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the ongoing and planned work on workload standards and performance measurement specifically develops qualitative methods and indicators to assess productivity, efficiency and

[9] A/58/213.

cost-effectiveness and to do so also for the quality of services, and to report thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

12. *Recognizes* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and services, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to include a user-oriented approach towards performance management on a wider scope, to make proposals to the General Assembly on the incorporation of such an approach into the performance-management methods of the Department and to incorporate the results of such an approach, as well as the results of his own internal evaluation of the Department, into future proposals for the improvement of the operation of the Department;

III

Documentation- and publication-related matters

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* section B of its resolution 52/214, and emphasizes that any reduction in the length of reports should affect neither the quality of presentation nor the content of the reports;

3. *Notes* that reports not originating from the Secretariat comprise the bulk of the documents issued,[10] and requests the Secretary-General to examine ways and means to achieve compliance with the relevant guideline on page limits and to report on the matter to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

4. *Also notes* the relative improvement in the timely issuance of documents for the fifty-eighth session;

5. *Notes with concern* that the six-week rule for issuance of documents is not fully complied with owing to, inter alia, the late submission of documents by author departments in violation of relevant rules, and requests the Secretary-General to take corrective measures so as to ensure strict compliance with the six-week rule for the timely issuance of documentation in view of the impact of their late issuance on the functioning of intergovernmental and expert bodies;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the rules concerning simultaneous distribution of documents in all official languages are followed with respect to the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and on the United Nations web site, in keeping with section III, paragraph 5, of General Assembly resolution 55/222;

7. *Notes with concern* paragraph 61 of the report of the Secretary-General,[11] reaffirms that there should be no exceptions to the rule that documents must be distributed in all official languages, and emphasizes the principle that all official documents must be distributed simultaneously in all official languages before they are made available on United Nations web sites;

[10] See A/57/228, paras. 79–86.

[11] A/58/194 and Corr.1 and 2.

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that documents are available in accordance with the six-week rule for their distribution simultaneously in the six official languages;

9. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that translation, in principle, reflects the specificity of each language to the extent possible and that concordance in resolutions is achieved;

10. *Recalls* section III, paragraphs 25, 26 and 27, of resolution 57/283 B, expresses its concern that the report requested in paragraph 28 of the resolution was not submitted, urges the Secretary-General to provide Member States promptly with the outcome of the consultations referred to in this context, and decides to revert to this issue at its fifty-ninth session;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to direct all departments to include the following elements in reports originating in the Secretariat:

(*a*) A summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

12. *Encourages* intergovernmental and expert bodies to include the above-mentioned elements, where appropriate, in their reports to the General Assembly;

13. *Requests* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat, intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

14. *Notes with concern* the delay in the issuance of verbatim and summary records and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to ameliorate the situation, with a view to issuing them in a timely fashion;

15. *Also notes with concern* the non-compliance with rule 59 of the rules of procedures of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the communication of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly to Member States within fifteen days after the closure of the session;

16. *Further notes with concern* the decrease in the percentage of documents available in Arabic issued by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, and requests the Secretary-General to take immediate measures to ensure the 100 per cent issuance in Arabic of all the Commission's documents and publications in the biennium 2004–2005;

17. *Reaffirms* section B of its resolution 52/214, and re-emphasizes that any reduction in the length of documents should not adversely affect either the quality of the presentation or the substance of the documents and that the reduction should be implemented in a flexible manner with respect to the consolidated reports;

IV

Translation- and interpretation-related matters

1. *Notes with concern* the high rate of self-revision in some of the official languages, as well as the translation problems in some languages;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in updating the workload standards, to address the question of the appropriate level of self-revision that is consistent with quality in all official languages;

3. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General contained in section IV, paragraph 1, of its resolution 55/222;

V

Information technology

1. *Emphasizes* that the primary goal of the introduction of new technology should be to enhance the quality, production, cost-effectiveness and efficiency of conference services, in accordance with legislative mandates;

2. *Notes* the relative progress achieved thus far across duty stations in integrating information technology into management and documentation-processing systems;

3. *Also notes* the particular situation of the United Nations Office at Nairobi, urges the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure that modern conference management and documentation practices, systems and technology are shared across all duty stations in an institutionalized manner and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

VI

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a consolidated report on all actions mandated in the present resolution to the Committee on Conferences at its next session;

2. *Recalls* the need to consider biennialization and triennialization of the agenda items of the Fifth Committee, in accordance with the guidelines on the rationalization of the agenda of the General Assembly outlined in paragraph 5 (*c*) of annex I to its resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994 and in its resolution 58/126 of 19 December 2003 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of paragraph 2 above, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Committee on Conferences, proposals on the possibility of biennializing this item.

79th plenary meeting
23 December 2003

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 126

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/58/576)*]

58/251. United Nations common system

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2003[1] and the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the Commission,[2]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Convinced that the common system constitutes the best instrument through which to secure staff with the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity for the international civil service, as stipulated in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the statute of the Commission and its central role in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Takes note with appreciation of the work of the International Civil Service Commission, and takes note of its report for 2003;[1]

I

Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

A. Review of the pay and benefits system

Recalling its resolutions 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998, 55/223 of 23 December 2000 and 57/285 of 20 December 2002,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the continuing progress being made by the Commission in the review of the pay and benefits system in the context of the approved framework for human resources management;

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/58/30).
[2] A/58/378.

2. *Takes note* of the decisions of the Commission contained in paragraphs 35, 86 and 88 of its report;[1]

B. Contractual arrangements

Recalling section I.A, paragraph 4, of its resolution 57/285,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the collaborative process between the Commission and the organizations to develop a general framework for contractual arrangements within which organizations of the common system could operate;

2. *Takes note* of the decisions of the Commission contained in paragraphs 104 and 105 of its report;[1]

C. Mobility

Recalling section V of its resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001 and section I.B of its resolution 57/285,

1. *Takes note* of the decision of the Commission contained in paragraph 125 of its report;[1]

2. *Takes note also* of the decision of the Commission contained in paragraph 126 of its report to review the current mobility and hardship scheme in the context of the pay and benefits review;

D. Hazard pay

Recalling section I.D of its resolution 57/285,

Recalls that hazard pay is a payment of a symbolic nature, and requests the Commission to reconsider and decide on a smaller increase in the level of hazard pay for local staff, taking into account the views expressed by Member States, and to report on the implementation of this request to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

E. Mission subsistence allowance/special operations approach

Takes note of the decision of the Commission contained in paragraph 154 of its report;[1]

II

Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

A. Base/floor salary scale

Recalling section I.H of its resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989, by which it established a floor net salary for staff in the Professional and higher categories with reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service,[3]

[3] See the annex to the present resolution.

Approves the recommendation of the Commission contained in paragraph 188 of its report;[1]

B. Linkage between the mobility and hardship allowance and the base/floor salary scale

Recalling its resolutions 44/198, 46/191 A of 20 December 1991, 51/216, 55/223 and 57/285,

Looks forward to receiving, at its fifty-ninth session, the reports of the Commission on its review of the mobility and hardship scheme and on the linkage between the mobility and hardship allowance and the base/floor salary scale;

III

Conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories: methodologies for surveys of best prevailing conditions of employment at Headquarters and non-Headquarters duty stations

Recalling section III, paragraph 1, of its resolution 47/216 of 23 December 1992,

Endorses the decisions of the Commission and the refinements and modifications of the methodologies contained in paragraphs 230, 265 to 269, 279, 288, 302, 311, 312, 326, 354 and 355 of its report.[1]

79th plenary meeting
23 December 2003

Annex

Comparison of average net remuneration of United Nations officials in the Professional and higher categories in New York and United States officials in Washington, D.C., by equivalent grades (margin for calendar year 2003)

Grade	Net remuneration (United States dollars)		United Nations/ United States ratio (United States, Washington, D.C. = 100)	United Nations/ United States ratio adjusted for cost-of-living differential	Weights for calculation of overall ratio[b]
	United Nations[a]	United States			
P-1	58 761	42 420	138.5	120.3	0.2
P-2	73 087	55 169	132.5	115.1	5.3
P-3	89 112	67 748	131.5	114.2	20.9
P-4	106 863	84 642	126.3	109.7	32.1
P-5	125 124	99 430	125.8	109.3	27.5
D-1	144 874	114 817	126.2	109.6	10.4
D-2	151 732	118 923	127.6	110.9	3.7
Weighted average ratio before adjustment for New York/Washington, D.C., cost-of-living differential					127.6
New York/Washington, D.C., cost-of-living ratio					115.1
Weighted average ratio, adjusted for cost-of-living difference					110.9

[a] For the calculation of the average United Nations salaries, personnel statistics of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination as at 31 December 2000 were used.

[b] These weights correspond to the United Nations common system staff in grades P-1 to D-2 serving at Headquarters and established offices as at 31 December 2000.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 131

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/58/579)*]

58/252. Second performance report for the biennium 2002–2003 on the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Having considered the second performance report of the Secretary-General for the biennium 2002–2003 on the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 56/248 A of 24 December 2001, 56/248 B of 27 March 2002 and 57/289 of 20 December 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General for the biennium 2002–2003 on the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

[1] A/58/597.
[2] A/58/605.

3. *Notes with concern* the late issuance of the second performance report of the Secretary-General for the biennium 2002–2003, bearing in mind the nature of the report and the period covered therein;

4. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2002–2003, the amount of 203,962,600 United States dollars gross (182,870,700 dollars net) approved in its resolution 57/289 of 20 December 2002 for the budget of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, shall be adjusted by the amount of 4,517,100 dollars gross (4,392,200 dollars net) for a total amount of 208,479,700 dollars gross (187,262,900 dollars net).

79th plenary meeting
23 December 2003

United Nations A/RES/58/253

General Assembly

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13 January 2004

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 131

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/58/579)*]

58/253. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Having considered the documents submitted by the Secretary-General on the financing for the biennium 2004–2005 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995, on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 56/248 A of 24 December 2001, 56/248 B of 27 March 2002 and 57/289 of 20 December 2002,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1503 (2003) of 28 August 2003 concerning the creation of a new position of Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for Rwanda,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 1512 (2003) of 27 October 2003 concerning the authorization for the use of up to nine additional ad litem judges in the International Tribunal for Rwanda,

Welcoming the developments and improvements in the management and the activities of the Tribunal thus far achieved during the biennium 2002–2003,

[1] A/58/269, A/58/366, A/58/368, A/58/550 and A/58/367.

[2] A/58/554.

1. *Takes note* of the documents submitted by the Secretary-General on the financing for the biennium 2004–2005 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Notes with concern* the levels of unpaid assessed contributions, and urges Member States to pay their assessed contributions on time, in full and without conditions;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to present the proposed budget for the biennium 2004–2005 in a results-based format, and encourages him to make further progress in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the report requested in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 55/226 of 23 December 2000, as well as the views of the Board of Auditors thereon, is submitted to the Assembly during the main part of its fifty-ninth session;

6. *Welcomes* the appointment of a Prosecutor and the authorization for the use of up to nine ad litem judges, as approved by the Security Council in its resolutions 1503 (2003) and 1512 (2003), and stresses the importance of ensuring that the Tribunal receives adequate financial and human resources to support its strengthened judicial capacity and to enable it to meet the targets set out in its completion strategy;

7. *Welcomes also* the efforts made by the Tribunal to enhance coordination between the Chambers, the Office of the Prosecutor and the relevant sections of the Registry, through the establishment of the various management committees;

8. *Requests* the Tribunal to continue to enhance its engagement with the defence counsel establishment in the facilitation of trial work;

9. *Welcomes* the development of the completion strategy, and invites the Tribunal to revise the strategy, where appropriate, to take into account the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1503 (2003) and 1512 (2003) and the resultant increased judicial capacity of the Tribunal;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop further the link between the Tribunal's completion strategy and objectives and the resources requested in future budget proposals;

11. *Concurs* with the view of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that continued close collaboration between the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda is essential, and urges the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure such collaboration;

12. *Notes with concern* that the vacancy rate at the International Tribunal for Rwanda remains high, while acknowledging that the level has been reduced during the biennium 2002–2003, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, as a matter of priority, to reduce the vacancy rate during the biennium 2004–2005, including, if appropriate, through delegating authority to the Registrar for

recruitment in the Professional category and considering extending the contracts of core staff for longer periods, consistent with the staff regulations and rules, and bearing in mind the targets set in the completion strategy;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, where appropriate, to prioritize and deploy resources in support of the completion strategy and to report thereon in his first and second performance reports;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to undertake efficiency measures to streamline the work of the Tribunal and to provide an assessment of the financial impact of those measures in future budget proposals;

15. *Invites* the Security Council to continue to monitor closely the progress made by the Tribunal towards completing its mandate, in accordance with the completion strategy;

16. *Also invites* the Security Council to request the Secretary-General to make initial preparations, including establishing the rules of procedure, for the transfer of cases to national jurisdictions;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on proposals for the resources necessary to aid in the transfer of cases to national jurisdictions;

18. *Decides* to maintain the current level of funding for consultants and experts;

19. *Also decides* to approve the proposed post and non-post resources for the Investigations Division for 2004 and to defer consideration of the resource requirements for the Investigations Division for 2005 until the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to resubmit, in his first performance report for the biennium 2004–2005, proposals for the resource requirements for the Investigations Division for 2005 and to ensure that the proposals are adequate for the effective implementation of the completion strategy;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review the outreach programme of the Tribunal and to report to the General Assembly during the main part of its fifty-ninth session on optimal media for the dissemination of information on the work of the Tribunal and on the resources allocated to this function, and on how future outreach initiatives and coordination with other parts of the United Nations system support the completion strategy and contribute to the reconciliation process in Rwanda;

22. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report on oversight functions in the Tribunal in his first performance report for the biennium 2004–2005, with specific reference to oversight of resources allocated for the upgrading of prison facilities to international standards;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue the possibility of assistance to the Tribunal from the United Nations Office at Nairobi and other offices of the United Nations system to increase remote translation capabilities and to report on cost comparisons in his first performance report;

24. *Welcomes* the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the progress made by the Tribunal in reforming its legal aid system;[3]

[3] A/58/366.

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to reform the legal aid system, taking into account the recommendations contained in the comprehensive report or other reforms deemed more appropriate by the Tribunal, as a top priority, and to report on the implementation and consequent savings in defence costs in his performance report for the biennium 2004–2005;

26. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 18.2 per cent for Professional staff and 9.7 per cent for General Service staff shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

27. *Recalls* paragraph 3 of its resolution 57/289, in which it urged the Secretary-General to request the Office of Internal Oversight Services to conduct a management review of the Office of the former Prosecutor, and requests the Secretary-General to submit the report on the matter to the General Assembly no later than at its resumed fifty-eighth session;

28. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 the total amount of 235,324,200 United States dollars for the biennium 2004–2005, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

29. *Decides also* that the total assessment for 2004 under the Special Account, amounting to 122,179,200 dollars, shall consist of:

(*a*) 117,662,100 dollars, being half of the estimated appropriation approved for the biennium 2004–2005;

(*b*) 4,517,100 dollars, being the increase in the final appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/252 of 23 December 2003;

30. *Decides further* to apportion the amount of 61,089,600 dollars, being half of the total assessment for 2004, among Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2004, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003;

31. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 61,089,600 dollars, being half of the total assessment for 2004, among Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2004;

32. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 30 and 31 above, the amount of 11,149,250 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 11,024,350 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Tribunal for the biennium 2004–2005;

(*b*) 124,900 dollars, being the increase in staff assessment income for the biennium 2002–2003 approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/252 of 23 December 2003.

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Annex

Financing for the biennium 2004–2005 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

(United States dollars)

	Gross	*Net*
1. Estimated appropriation for the biennium 2004–2005	251 388 400	227 469 200
2. Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	–	–
3. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	(16 064 200)	(14 193 700)
4. Revised estimated appropriation for the biennium 2004–2005	235 324 200	213 275 500
5. Estimated income for the biennium 2004–2005	–	–
6. Total assessment for 2004,[a] comprising:	**122 179 200**	**111 029 950**
(*a*) Requirements representing half of the estimated appropriation for the biennium 2004–2005	117 662 100	106 637 750
(*b*) Requirements arising from the final appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003	4 517 100	4 392 200
Including:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2004	61 089 600	55 514 975
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2004	61 089 600	55 514 975

[a] For 2005, the relevant amount will be assessed by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 132

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/58/580)*]

58/254. Second performance report for the biennium 2002–2003 on the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

Having considered the second performance report of the Secretary-General for the biennium 2002–2003 on the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 56/247 A of 24 December 2001, 56/247 B of 27 March 2002 and 57/288 of 20 December 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General for the biennium 2002–2003 on the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

3. *Notes with concern* the late issuance of the second performance report of the Secretary-General for the biennium 2002–2003, bearing in mind the nature of the report and the period covered therein;

4. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2002–2003, the amount of 262,653,700 United States dollars gross (235,955,000 dollars net) approved in its resolution 57/288 of 20 December 2002 for the budget of the International Tribunal for the

[1] A/58/593.
[2] A/58/605.

Former Yugoslavia shall be adjusted by the amount of 25,668,500 dollars gross (18,803,200 dollars net) for a total amount of 288,322,200 dollars gross (254,603,800 dollars net).

79th plenary meeting
23 December 2003